

Massachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

As Compiled by
The Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety
and the U.S. Department of Labor

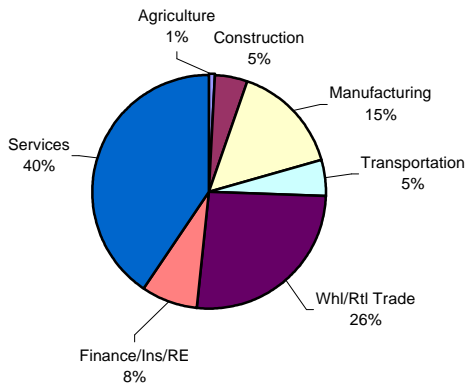


2000 Report – All Industries

The Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, has produced both national and state-specific data on private sector workplace injuries and illnesses. Annual surveys are collected from private establishments in each state and processed by a designated agency. During the 2000 survey cycle, 5,805 establishments were surveyed in Massachusetts and 243,126 establishments were surveyed nationwide. The following data have been selected to give a detailed look at the major industries in Massachusetts – Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing; Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation and Public Utilities; Wholesale and Retail Trade; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; and Services.

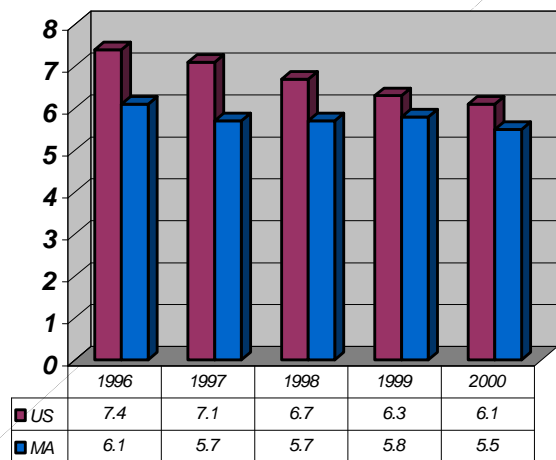
The State of Massachusetts recorded a population of 6,349,097 in the year 2000, and 2,866,344 of those people were employed in the private sector (408,760 people were also employed in the public sector).

Chart 1: Percent employment in Massachusetts by industry, 2000



Employment is expressed as an annual average and is derived primarily from the BLS-State Covered Employment and Wages program.

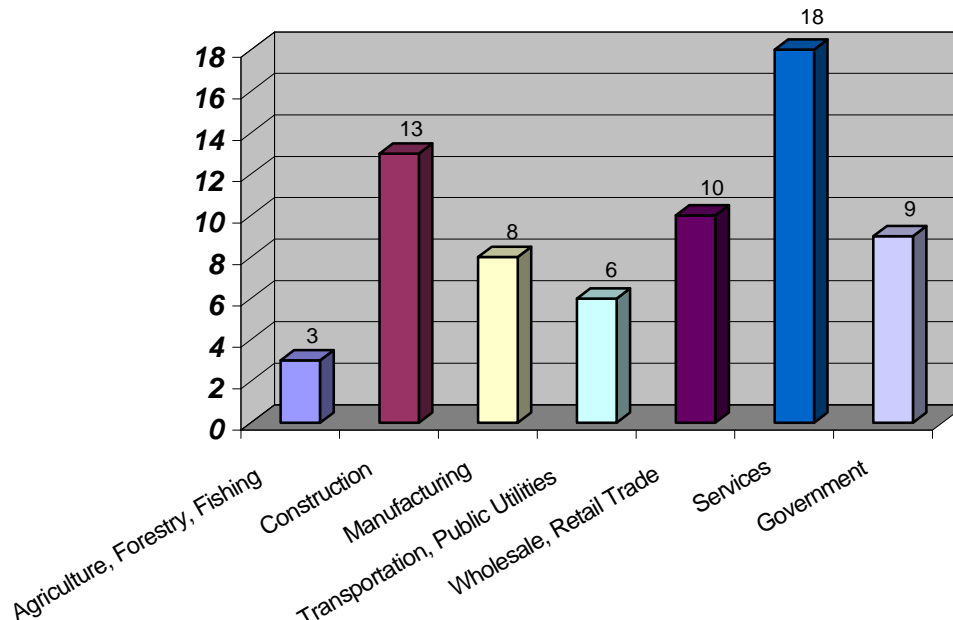
Chart 2: Incidence rates¹ of nonfatal injuries and illnesses (per 100 full time workers), Private Industry, MA & US 1996-2000



(Source: Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor). The Services Industry made up the largest portion of employees in 2000 at 40%, or 1,160,400 workers. Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing had the fewest with one percent, or 24,000; Construction had 130,100; Manufacturing, 436,100; Transportation and Public Utilities, 141,100; Wholesale and Retail Trade, 748,900; and Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate made up eight percent or 224,100 workers. (See Chart 1.)

Within the private industry sector in Massachusetts, the incidence rate¹ of occupational injuries and illnesses was 5.5 in the year 2000, or an estimated 132,200 occupational injuries and illnesses. In comparison, the rate in 1999 was 5.8, in 1998 the rate was 5.7, in 1997 it was 5.7 and in 1996 it was 6.1. See Chart 2 for a comparison of Massachusetts to the National rates.

Chart 3: Number of fatal occupational injuries by major industry, 2000



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

There were 67 fatal occupational injuries and illnesses in Massachusetts in the year 2000. The Services Industry made up most of those with 18; while there were three in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing; 13 in Construction; eight in Manufacturing; six in Transportation and Public Utilities; 10 in Wholesale and Retail Trade; and nine in Government. The major causes of occupational deaths in Massachusetts were falls, homicides, and transportation accidents.

In the year 2000, private industry workers in Massachusetts suffered 52,821 occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work. Chart 4 shows the distribution of the lost time injury cases by the nature of the injury or illness. Of the total, 28,027 injuries or illnesses were strains or sprains, 5,035 were bruises or contusions, 4,665 were cuts, lacerations or punctures, and 3,459 were fractures. (See Chart 4 for all other natures of injury or illness and the numbers of workers they represent.)

Chart 4: Number of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by nature of injury or illness, Private Industry, 2000

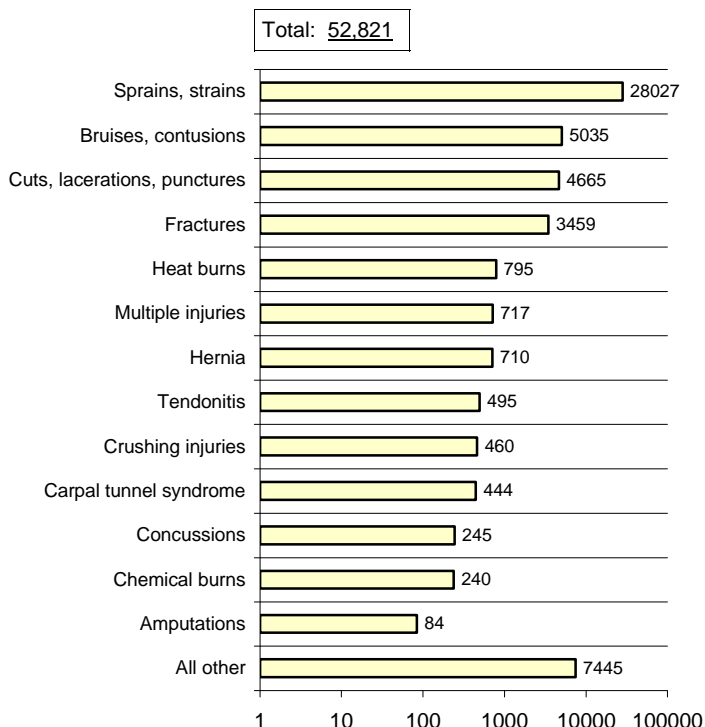
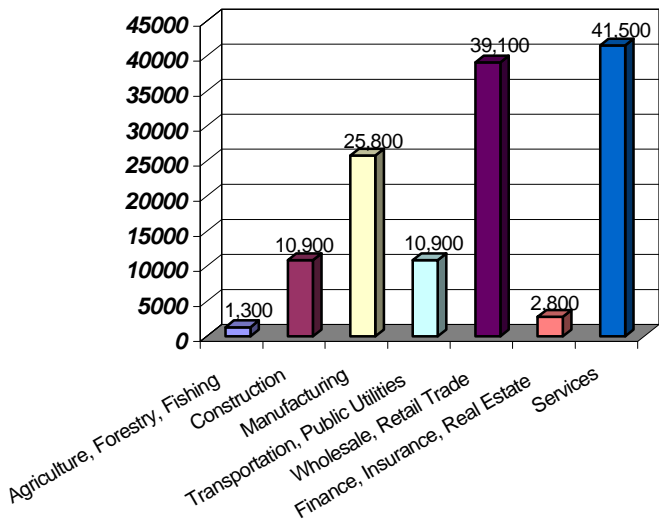


Chart 5 details the total numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses that occurred in the seven major industry groups in Massachusetts in the year 2000. These data indicate that the Services Industry had the most injuries and illnesses with 41,500; the Wholesale and Retail Trade Industry had the second most with 39,100; then Manufacturing with 25,800; Transportation and Public Utilities, and Construction, both with 10,900; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate with 2,800; and Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing with 1,300.

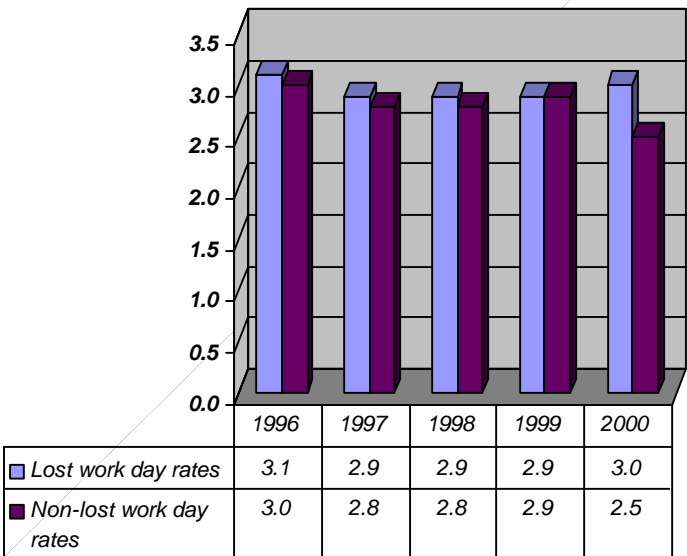
Chart 5: Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by major industry, 2000



Of the 132,200 total reportable cases of occupational injury and illness in Massachusetts private industry in 2000, 72,200 of these cases resulted in days away from work or restricted workdays, or both, while about 60,000

injuries were cases without lost work days. Days away from work are counted if the employee misses any days AFTER the initial day of the occurrence of the injury or diagnosis of illness. Restricted work time is defined as light duty or a temporary transfer of duties due to an occupational injury or illness. Non-lost workday cases are those cases in which the employee is injured but returns the next day to work with no restrictions. The incidence rate¹ in 2000 of lost workday cases per 100 full time workers was 3.0. This represents a slight increase in the rate from each of the three prior years. The incidence rate of non-lost workday cases was 2.5 in 2000, which represents a decrease from each of the four prior years. (See Chart 6.)

Chart 6: Lost work day v. Non-lost work day incidence rates¹ of nonfatal injuries and illnesses (per 100 full time workers), Private Industry, 1996-2000



¹ Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: (N/EH) x 200,000 where

N = number of injuries and illnesses

EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year.
200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

NOTE: Because of rounding, components may not add to totals.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating State agencies.

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This report was compiled from data collected by the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data has also been included from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training.

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Or visit our Web site at:
www.state.ma.us/dos/pages/stats.htm

For additional information, please go to: www.bls.gov/IIF or www.osha.gov

Reports are available for all major industry groups in Massachusetts: Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing; Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation and Public Utilities; Wholesale and Retail Trade; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; and Services. To obtain information about the Mining industry please contact the U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) at www.msha.gov or the U.S. Department of Labor MSHA Northeast District office at (724) 772-2333.



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